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The Republican Presidential List.

Chairman Hilles is informed that
the names of twelve or fifteen favor-
ite sons will be presented to the re-
publican national convention for first
place on the national ticket. Should
not the fact be heartening to that
party? Does it not show a widely-
prevailing impression that there is
something worth contending for? Of
course, it presents a difficulty. The
convention will have to exercise great
good judgment in making its selection.
But out of that difficulty benefit
should come. A thorough canvass of
its available material should secure
for the party its best man for candi-
date.It is said that Gov. Johnson of Cali-
fornia will head the delegation from
that state and be pressed by it for
the nomination. If he attends it must
be as a republican, not as a bull
moose, and if he participates in the
convention he should support the ticket.Something very much more must
be said in his behalf, however, than
that he is the only man who could
carry California against Mr. Wilson.
The nomination of Gov. Johnson on
that proposition would be not only
to recognize him as the favorite son,
but California as the favorite state.
And while the state enters into the
republican calculations for next year,
it is not comparable in importance
with any one of half a dozen other
states that the point instantly sug-
gests.Will a pledge be formally asked of
those who enter the national conven-
tion that they will accept its decision?
There were anti-Blaine republicans
who after trying to defeat his
nomination in 1884 refused to sup-
port him as the nominee. Their
course cost them their party influ-
ence. George William Curtis was
among the number, and he never
afterward figured as a factor in re-
publican affairs. Theodore Roosevelt
was anti-Blaine both before and at
the convention, but supported the
ticket. Otherwise, we should not
have seen him accomplish within the
party what now stands in his credit.Mr. Wilson, it is true, was never
a Bryan man until on the eve of the
campaign of 1912. It is not charged
that he bolted Mr. Bryan's three nom-
inations for the presidency. He sim-
ply had no sympathy with what was
called Bryanism. But even had he
been known as a bolter, when he
stood forgiven by Mr. Bryan, and was
urged for the presidential nomina-
tion by him, it was easy for the
democracy to make Mr. Wilson its
leader. After Mr. Bryan had wiped
the slate clean for Mr. Wilson's ex-
press benefit, the matter was settled.Russia has been suspected of har-
boring a great deal of graft. Cutting
it out might make the work of rais-
ing war funds a little easier.England expects every man to do
his duty. She also expects every
pound sterling to step forward and
be ready for action.This year is expected to comple-
tely restore foot ball to standing as a
safe and sane pastime.

A Censorship at Manila.

Representative Miller of Minnesota
has just returned from a visit to the
Philippine Islands, made for the ex-
press purpose of investigating on his
own account the general conditions
there. He tells of some discoveries
that amazed him. He found things
of both a political and business char-
acter at sixes and sevens, and Ameri-
can prestige at a low ebb. He re-
gards the Harrison administration as
a failure.In an interview Mr. Miller says that
we are not getting in this country
the truth from official sources about
the Philippine situation. This is his
charge:"No nation at war in Europe has
a more rigorous news censorship than
exists over all public items from the
islands. The truth is deliberately,
criminally concealed from the Ameri-
can people, with the full knowledge
that if they knew the truth their
wrath would be all devouring."Now here is a definite charge from
a responsible source worthy of the
attention of Congress. It is not
founded on hearsay. It is not back-
stairs tittle-tattle. Why should it
not lead to an investigation? Why
should not Congress, if anything at
all is to be done at this session about
the Philippines, appoint a committee
with power to visit the archipelago
and look into affairs there? Why
pass the Jones bill, or any other bill
containing the germs of scuttling, when
instead of relaxing our hold on the
islands we should strengthen it? Why
proceed upon the proposition that all
is well when all is ill under an ad-

ministration which found things in

good and promising shape?

It is a long, long way to Manila.
If Gov. Gen. Harrison has a press
agent, the latter has a fine oppor-
tunity to get in his work. If puffing
his chief and his chief's record is his
task, he has all the facilities for ex-
ecuting it. The cable is his whenever
he wants to use it for official pur-
poses. Whatever he files "goes."This report of Mr. Miller does not
stand alone, though it is probably the
most severe arraignment yet made of
the effect of the new order in the
Philippines. Other travelers—some
politicians, some business men, some
globe trotters and general observers
—have brought back within the past
two years uncomplimentary and dis-
couraging accounts of the situation
there. Some had known the islands
under Spanish rule and then under
what may be called the Taft rule, and
had remarked a deterioration under
the Harrison rule.Why not a committee of Congress
to go into the matter before it is
taken up on the floor of either house
for legislative action of a far-reach-
ing character?

Electric Current Rates.

The Washington Railway and Elec-
tric and the Potomac Electric Power
companies deny the authority of the
public utilities commission to compel
a change of corporation relationship
in such a manner as to affect the
rates charged for electric lights for
this District, and the commission has
been in effect notified that an attempt
to lower the rates through such a
procedure will be resisted by an ap-
peal to court. The public has no con-
cern in the relationship between the
two corporations save as it may af-
fect unfavorably the prices charged
for electric current, and its only in-
terest in the effort of the commission
to force a separation is based upon
the desire to secure lower rates.As to the power of the commission
to change the rates charged for elec-
tric current there can be no question,
provided, of course, that it does not
reduce them to an unreasonable point.
If serious obstacles are to be put
in the way of a rate revision by means
of a divorce of the corporations or a
change in their contract relationship
it would seem to be advisable for the
commission to move along another
line and to fix the rates charged to
the public without regard to the
prices at which electric current is sold
by the producing company to its large-
est customer—the railway company.It is believed that Washington's
electric current rates are much higher
than any local conditions justify.
Comparisons have already been insti-
tuted to prove this fact. It is hardly
conceivable that the power company
can account for the exceptionally
high rates charged to private con-
sumers on the score of any arrange-
ment that may exist between it and
its fellow corporation and ostensible
customer, the traction company.
Should it do so it admits into the
case the factor of that relationship,
which then would become a legiti-
mate ground for revision if, as al-
leged by the commission, the power
company sells to the traction com-
pany at a discriminatory price, and if
the profits of the power company are
used for the support of the traction
company.Probably any action by the com-
mission will be resisted in court by
the corporations, and it will be
as well to have the matter thresh-
ed out without further delay, so that
the community can ascertain where
the equities lie in order that if neces-
sary legislation may be had that will
cure any faults that may now exist
in the law bearing upon this question
of electric current rates.No express company will believe
that the big train robbery in West
Virginia was anything but a judg-
ment on a government that tried to
be too economical in transporting its
money.Announcements have been made in
connection with every conflict that
it was in the interest of humanity.
Even war has its press agents.Since our friend Dr. Dumba is
knighted, why should friend Dr. Dern-
burg be slighted?Carranza is face to face with the
fact that recognition has its respon-
sibilities as well as its advantages.

Furious Fighting on All Fronts.

Reports of the fighting in Serbia
are not clear in their indication of
the prospect of success for either the
Teutonic drive southward or the al-
lied move northward. From one side
comes an indication that there is no
substantial check to the campaign
for the piercing of Serbia to give free
way into Bulgaria, and thence into
Turkey, while, on the other hand, it
is claimed that the Bulgars have been
defeated in southeastern Serbia and
driven in retreat in such a manner as
to throw the more northerly situated
Bulgarian forces into a dangerous po-
sition. Evidently the allies are strain-
ing every effort to put a large army
into Serbia as quickly as possible,
not merely to prevent the opening of
the road to Turkey, but for political
effect upon Greece and Rumania, es-
pecially the former. Greece remains
in the anomalous position of a neutral
permitting the use of its territory for
military purposes, while Rumania has
given no positive indication of its
intentions. The latest report on this
subject is that Rumania has refused
to allow the transit of Bulgarian
goods through its territory, complet-
ly interrupting commercial relations
between the two countries. Partici-
pation by Rumania on the side of the
allies would be much more effectiveat this particular juncture than inter-
vention by Greece, inasmuch as Ru-
mania is in a position to strike a
hard blow on the Bulgarian flank,
while Greece, save for the addition of
men, could just now do little more
than she is doing in allowing the al-
lied forces to land at Saloniki and
move northward from that point.
Meanwhile a heavy French offensive
has developed against the German
lines in the west, and the Italians
have renewed their onset against the
Austrian front in a series of vigorous
engagements, as a result of which
it is claimed already 60,000 Austrians
have fallen. The Russian armies have
continued their fresh offensive move-
ments in Galicia, and are continuing
to offer a stout resistance in the
neighborhood of Riga and Dvinsk.
With all these activities in progress
it is evident that a desperate effort
is being made on both sides to ac-
complish results before the coming of
winter.

Washington's Horsemen.

The call to Washingtonians to get
"back to the saddle" is being heeded
in a manner to promise complete suc-
cess of the movement. On each of
the past two Sundays large numbers
of horsemen have appeared in Rock
Creek Park, some joining the squads
at the appointed hours and places, but
many more riding independently.
Whether they go in groups or alone
they are getting unmistakable benefit
from their outings. Doubtless a large
number of them have in the course
of these horseback excursions reach-
ed parts of the park never before
visited.In these days of electric cars and
motor vehicles there is little inde-
pendence of action. Those who go
afloat and horseback have much more
freedom and pleasure than those who
follow the prescribed routes of me-
chanical travel. Rock Creek Park is
a place of unsuspected delight to
those who for the first time visit it
as pedestrians or horsemen. Wash-
ington's facilities for saddle outings
are extensive, and it is gratifying that
the suggestion of a revival of eque-
trianism has been so largely accepted.Making ammunition is a line of em-
ployment which enables a man to ex-
perience the suspense and peril of
war without being actually on the fir-
ing line.As usual, Thanksgiving is not free
from suggestions that fail to arouse
gratitude, if you choose to look on
that side of the picture.Villa does not permit himself to be
interviewed. And if he should con-
sent, propriety would probably refuse
to listen.If base ball is introduced in Mex-
ico, the question of where the sup-
ply of umpires will come from is like-
ly to be serious very soon.There are times when it is hard for
Brownsville, Tex., to realize that it is
a peaceful and thriving community in
a perfectly neutral country.It is difficult to realize that this
same war was going on away back
in the days when "It's a Long Way to
Tipperary" was popular.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Mental Disturbance.

"Did that alienist prove that you
were crazy?"
"No," replied the defendant; "but
he admitted that he was nearly so
before the lawyer got through with
him."

Getting His Own Measure.

"Does your wife lecture you?"
"Me?" exclaimed Mr. Meekton.
"Why, Henrietta wouldn't waste her
time lecturing a little bit of an au-
dience like me."A man who solemnly declares that
he is superior to the influence of flat-
tery is flattering himself.

Political Demonstrations.

The old procession's end of date
Where men with torches were ar-
rayed.
Now men upon the sidewalk wait
While women give the big parade.

A Candid Preference.

"The old town don't seem like what
it used to be since it went dry," re-
marked Uncle Bill Bottletop.
"I suppose it doesn't please you
nearly as much.""Yes, it does. Of two evils I be-
lieve in choosin' the least. And as a
man that knows good licker I want
to say that no licker at all is bet-
ter'n the kind they used to sell in
this village."

Confident Assertion.

"Do you actually expect to stay at
home and read all those books you
are buying?"
"Certainly. Till I get through pay-
ing for those books I won't have
money enough to go down town."

Feathers.

The feathers on a hat are fine,
And yet they're sadly out of place,
Arranged in curious design
A lady's elegance to grace.
For feathers naturally grow
On creatures made for song so gay,
Whose plumage is not all for show,
But bears them lightly on their way.The bird bereft is sad and still.
Perhaps it has been left to die.
Oh, lady, can you show the skill
Which your adornment would im-
ply?
Can you employ your plumage rare
Its rational results to bring?
Can you fly lightly through the air
Or perch upon a limb and sing?

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